

ABSTRACT**WEB BASED DATABASE INQUIRY SYSTEM**

5 The Web based Database Inquiry System provides custom tables in which are stored information from an external database. The custom tables are designed to arrange and format the stored information so as to anticipate a user's request thus reducing time and cost associated with retrieving information arranged and formatted as per the user's desire. The information stored in the custom tables are structured, 10 arranged and formatted in typical and atypical approaches derived from ad hoc studies of patterns of user requests for particular applications and/or disciplines. The information is stored in a structured layered fashion and the user is able to retrieve information from the various layers through the use of a "drilling" operation. The custom tables are populated by a process server preferably during times of low 15 database usage by users. The Inquiry System contains modules for different types of information requested by the user and such modules contain the information to be displayed to the user via a browser.